Response to Office Action mailed February 23, 2006

Application Serial No.: 10/618,802

Filing Date: July 14, 2003

Docket: 2162 US CON (203-2421 PCT US CON)

Page 2 of 2

Claims 22, 23, 25-27 and 29-43 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of

obvious-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-28 of U.S. Patent No.

6,592,593 to Parodi et al. Upon information and belief, the present application and U.S. Patent

6,592,593 to Parodi et al. are commonly owned. As such, Applicants submit herewith an

appropriate terminal disclaimer in order to obviate the obviousness-type double patenting

rejection.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the Terminal Disclaimer fee under 37

CFR 1.20(d) of \$130.00 to Deposit Account No.: 21-0550. A duplicate copy of this sheet is

enclosed.

In view of the submission of the terminal disclaimer herewith Applicants respectfully

submit that the rejection of the claims in the present Office Action has been overcome.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone interview may still be necessary to further

facilitate prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone

Applicants' undersigned representative at the number indicated below.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the application and

allowance of claims 22, 23, 25-27 and 29-43 is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted.

By:

Francesco Sardone Reg. No.: 47,918

Attorney for Applicants

Carter, DeLuca, Farrell & Schmidt, LLP

445 Broad Hollow Road – Suite 225

Melville, NY 11747

Telephone: (631) 501-5700

Facsimile: (631) 501-3526

FS/nr